

COLORADO

Cattle, Sheep and Goat Inventory

SPECIAL PRESS RELEASE



**NATIONAL
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS
SERVICE**

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CATTLE INVENTORY JANUARY 1, 2009

COLORADO

The January 1, 2009 inventory of all cattle and calves in Colorado totaled 2.60 million head, down 150,000 head from January 1, 2008. Beef cows, at 720,000 head, were down 4,000 head from the previous year. Milk cows increased 4,000 head from last year to 130,000 head. Colorado's 2008 calf crop was down 1 percent from 2007 to 780,000.

Other class estimates as of January 1, 2009 and percent changes from 2008 were as follows: Beef replacement heifers 500 pounds and over, down 8 percent from last year to 120,000; milk replacement heifers 500 pounds and over, down 14 percent to 60,000 head; other heifers 500 pounds and over, down 10 percent to 530,000; steers 500 pounds and over, down 13 percent to 770,000; bulls 500 pounds and over, remained steady from 2008 at 50,000; and calves under 500 pounds, up 29 percent to 220,000 head. The total inventory included 1,020,000 head of cattle and calves on feed, which was down 11 percent from January 1, 2008.

UNITED STATES

All cattle and calves in the United States as of January 1, 2009, totaled 94.5 million head, 2 percent below the 96.0 million on January 1, 2008. All cows and heifers that have calved, at 41.0 million, were down 2 percent from the 41.7 million on January 1, 2008. Beef cows, at 31.7 million, were down 2 percent from January 1, 2008. Milk cows, at 9.33 million, were up 1 percent from January 1, 2008. Other class estimates on January 1, 2009, and the change from January 1, 2008, are as follows: All heifers 500 pounds and over, 19.6 million, down 1 percent. Beef replacement heifers, 5.53 million, down 2 percent. Milk replacement heifers, 4.41 million, down slightly. Other heifers, 9.65 million, down 1 percent. Steers weighing 500 pounds and over, 16.8 million, down 2 percent. Bulls weighing 500 pounds and over, 2.18 million, down 1 percent. Calves under 500 pounds, 14.9 million, down 1 percent. Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter in all feedlots, 13.9 million, down 7 percent. The combined total of calves under 500 pounds, and other heifers and steers over 500 pounds outside of feedlots was 27.5 million, up 1 percent. The 2008 calf crop was estimated at 36.1 million head, down 2 percent from 2007. Calves born during the first half of the year are estimated at 26.3 million, down 1 percent from 2007.

SHEEP & LAMB INVENTORY JANUARY 1, 2009

COLORADO

The January 1, 2009 inventory of all sheep and lambs in Colorado totaled 410,000 head, down 2 percent from the 420,000 on hand as of January 1, 2008. The number of breeding sheep and lambs as well as market sheep and lambs decreased 2 percent from last year to 205,000 head. There number of replacement lambs was unchanged from last at 34,000 head. The number of ewes one year old and older decreased 3 percent from last year to 165,000 head. The number of rams one year old and older remained unchanged from last year at 6,000 head. Of the 205,000 head of market sheep and lambs, 2,000 head were market sheep and 203,000 head were market lambs. There were 3,000 lambs weighing less than 65 pounds this year, down 1,000 from a year earlier; 10,000 were in the 65-84 pound weight group, down 12,000 from the previous year; 25,000 weighed 85-105 pounds compared with 41,000 last year; and 165,000 weighed over 105 pounds compared with the 141,000 head in this weight group on January 1, 2008. The 2008 lamb crop, at 210,000 head, was unchanged from the 2007 lamb crop.

Wool production in Colorado during 2008 totaled 2.6 million pounds, down from 2.7 million pounds produced in 2007. The number of all sheep and lambs shorn, at 380,000 head, was down 5 percent from 400,000 head shorn a year earlier. The value of wool production for 2008 totaled \$2.90 million, up 7 percent from a year earlier as producers received 1 dollar and 12 cents per pound of wool sold compared with 1 dollar per pound the previous year.

Over Please

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All sheep and lamb inventory in the United States on January 1, 2009, totaled 5.75 million head, down 3 percent from 2008. Breeding sheep inventory decreased to 4.25 million head on January 1, 2009, down 4 percent from 4.43 million head on Janry 1, 2008. Ewes one year old and older, at 3.40 million head, were 4 percent below last year. Market sheep and lambs on January 1, 2009, totaled 1.50 million head, down 1 percent from January 1, 2008. Market lambs comprised 95 percent of the total marketings. Twenty-three percent were lambs under 65 pounds, 11 percent were 65 - 84 pounds, 21 percent were 85 - 105 pounds, and 39 percent were over 105 pounds. Market sheep comprised the remaining 5 percent of total marketings. The 2008 lamb crop of 3.71 million head, was down 5 percent from 2007. The 2008 lambing rate was 105 lambs per 100 ewes one year old and older on January 1, 2008, down 3 percent from 2007.

Shorn wool production in the United States during 2008 was 33.0 million pounds, down 5 percent from 2007. Sheep and lambs shorn totaled 4.43 million head, down 5 percent from 2007. The average price paid for wool sold in 2008 was \$0.99 per pound for a total value of 32.5 million dollars, up 7 percent from 30.2 million dollars in 2007.

GOAT INVENTORY JANUARY 1, 2009

COLORADO

All goat inventory in Colorado on January 1, 2009, totaled 43,300 head, down 11 percent from a year earlier. Meat and all other goats accounted for 34,000 head compared with 39,000 on January 1, 2008. Milk goats totaled 8,300 head, up from 8,000 head a year ago, and Angora goats were down to 1,000 head from 1,400 head last year.

UNITED STATES

Total Goat and Kid Inventory Up 3 Percent

All goat inventory in the United States on January 1, 2009, totaled 3.07 million head, down 2 percent from 2008. Breeding goat inventory totaled 2.54 million head down 2 percent from 2008. All market goats and kids totaled 528,000 head, up 1 percent from a year ago. On January 1, 2009 meat and all other goats totaled 2.55 million head, down 2 percent from 2008. Milk goat inventory increased 4 percent to 335,000 head while angora goats were down 10 percent totaling 185,000 head. The 2008 kid crop totaled 1.96 million head for all goats, down 2 percent from 2007.

Mohair production in the United States during 2008 was 1.18 million pounds. Goats and kids clipped totaled 193,500 head. Average weight per clip was 6.10 pounds. Mohair price was \$3.31 per pound with a value of 3.91 million dollars.